

Buchsbaum 1999-0313

Remarks

Reconsideration of remaining claims 19, 20, 25, 26, 45, 46, 51 and 52 is respectfully requested.

In the Office action dated August 27, 2003 (application Paper No. 4), the Examiner rejected claims 1-18, 21-24, 27-44, 57-50 and 53-54 under 35 USC § 102(e) as anticipated by US Patent 6,406,036 (Herz).

Remaining claims 19, 20, 25, 26, 45 46, 51 and 52 were indicated by the Examiner as "objected to", but "allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims". In response, applicants have amended claims 19, 25, 25 and 51 to be in the form of independent claims, incorporating all of the limitations of their associated base claims. Therefore, applicants believe that remaining claims 19, 20, 25, 26, 45, 46, 51 and 52 are now in condition for allowance and respectfully request the Examiner to remove his objection and find the case, as amended, now ready to issue.

If for some reason or other the Examiner does not believe that the case is ready to issue and that an interview or telephone conversation would further the prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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